



Report to the Auburn City Council

Action Item

Agenda Item No. 8

City Manager Approval

To: Mayor and City Council Members

From: Jack Warren, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
Bernie Schroeder, Engineering Division Manager
Megan Siren, Administrative Analyst/Transit Manager

Date: April 27, 2009

Subject: Auburn Transit Special Route

The Issue

Shall the City offer a special route on particular weekends with multiple events going on within the City?

Conclusions and Recommendation

City Council by **MOTION** authorizes the additional special route for Transit on the weekend of May 16-17, 2009.

Background

Historically, the City has experienced an increase in visitors and parking demand on weekends where multiple events are occurring within the City. An example would be the weekend of May 16-17th where the Fairground is hosting the Spring Home Show on May 16th & 17th, the Endurance Expo is occurring at the Auburn School Park Preserve on May 16th and Old Town is hosting the Antique Fair on May 17th.

Currently, Auburn Transit currently operates a Saturday bus route from 9 am – 5 pm that begins at the Conheim/Auburn Station. The route encompasses the Downtown, Old town and Bowman areas. The special route would be in addition to the normal route. The special route as proposed would operate from the Fairgrounds entrance on High Street to Downtown, Elders Station, School Park Preserve and Old Town. The route would be on approximately 15 minute headways. Auburn Transit would dedicate one bus of service for each day. The special route is proposed to run from 11:00 am – 8:00 pm on Saturday, May 16th and from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm on Sunday, May 17th.

The marketing and advertisement of the special route will need be completed prior to the weekend and during the weekend to ensure that potential passengers are aware of the service.

Auburn Transit is required to maintain a 10% farebox recovery. If the City chose to offer the special route as a no fee to the passengers, then the City would need to have an outside funding source for a minimum of 10% of the total cost to operate the route.

Alternatives Available to Council; Implications of Alternatives

1. Authorize a special route.
2. Amend Staff Recommendation
3. Take no action.

Fiscal Impact

The total cost of the special route for 17 service hours (9 on Saturday and 8 hours on Sunday) of service would be approximately \$1,300. This expense is an unbudgeted item. The funding mechanism for the special route is either from the General Fund or the Transit Fund. If the funding is to come from the Transit Fund, then the passengers would need to pay a fare.

Attachments: Map of Proposed Route

